



**PATENT**

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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant : Drew Zoller  
Serial No. : 10/631,110  
Filed : July 31, 2003  
Title : CORD RETAINER  
Art Unit : 2833  
Examiner : Briggitte R. Hammond  
Attorney Docket No. : Z7-6606  
Confirmation No. : 7742  
  
Cleveland, OH 44114-1400  
April 20, 2004

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT**

Sir:

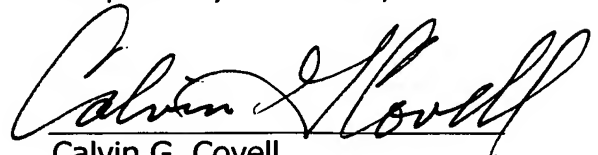
This amendment is being filed in response to the Office Action of March 29, 2004. Applicant hereby elects Species 1, that is, Figs. 1 – 6, for prosecution on the merits in this application. Claims 1 – 5, 7 – 10, 12, 13, 18 – 24, and 31 are readable on the elected species.

The restriction requirement is hereby traversed. An examination of the claims of Species 1 would require the searching of the same art as would be required for an examination of Species 2 – 5. It is believed that the public interest would be best served if the claims to Species 1 –5 issue in a single patent rather than requiring applicant to prosecute five different applications to cover each of the species. Examination of all of the claims would expedite prosecution of the subject matter of this application.

It is believed that the claims in this application clearly and patentably define over the prior art. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the claims be allowed.

If for any reason the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact applicant's attorneys in Cleveland, Ohio at 621-2234, area code 216. Please charge any deficiency in the fees for this application to our Deposit Account No. 20-0090.

Respectfully submitted,



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